

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Telephone connection Total addition
14. Madhya Pradesh.	.	59088
15. Maharashtra	.	65977
16. North East.	.	8679
17. Orissa	.	9589
18. Punjab	.	25458
19. Rajasthan	.	36797
20. Tamil Nadu	.	25327
21. Uttar Pradesh	.	68932
22. West Bengal	.	15533
	Total	539915
	Grand Total	700331

[English]

Opening of New Post Offices in Thane District of Maharashtra

567. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of post offices/sub-post offices in Thane district of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) (i) 5 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices which were sanctioned under the Annual Plan 1990-91 will be opened in 1991-92.

(ii) Besides, it is proposed to open 10 more Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 4 Departmental Sub-Post offices in Thane District during 1991-92.

Supply of Steel to Small Scale Industries

568. SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether small scale industries are not supplied steel at Government controlled rates in proportion to their requirements; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to supply adequate quantity of steel to small scale industries at controlled rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) and (b) There is no Government controlled rate for iron and steel. Prices of certain categories of iron steel are fixed by the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) and those materials are distributed in terms of the Distribution Guidelines of JPC. JPC categories of materials are supplied to small scale industrial units either through Small Scale Industries Corporations (SSICs) of States/Union Territories concerned or directly by the main producers at the prices fixed by JPC. Actual supplies of different categories of iron and steel to individual units depend upon the availability with the main producers.

[Translation]

Forged Passports

569. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases where forged passports were detected by the Government during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Information is being collected from the State Governments and other concerned departments.

(b) From August 1990 a More Secured Passport (MSP) has been introduced in India. The MSP is being progressively introduced in Missions/Posts abroad.

[*English*]

Use of Water Resources

570. SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of economically utilisable water available in the country;

(b) the quantum of water already used so far; and

(c) the amount required to use the remaining quantum of economically utilisable water?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The total utilisable quantity of water in the country both from surface and ground water is about 1140 billion cubic metre of which about 552 billion cubic metre is being presently utilised.

(c) The amount required for the development of economically utilisable waters for the different uses together has not been estimated.

New Schemes for Development of Agriculture in Kerala

571. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch new schemes for the development of agriculture in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the time by which these schemes are proposed to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c): New Schemes for development of arecanut and cocoa, development of fertiliser use in low consumption rainfed areas, development of offshore pelagic fishing, procurement of marine patrol boats for enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act, Strengthening of Inland fish marketing infrastructure by State level organisations, Introduction of Ply crafts, etc. are proposed to be taken up in Kerala during 1991-92.

Policy of Land Use

572. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the coastal eco-system are being threatened due to influx of human population along coastal area;

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to save the coastal eco-system;

(c) whether the Government propose to mark areas for conservation and intensification of agriculture;

(d) whether Government are considering a policy on land use; and

(e) if so, the salient feature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): In terms of notification dated 20-2-1991 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Environmental Protection Act 1986 and rules thereunder, activities in the Coastal Regulation Zone are regulated by imposing restrictions on industries, operations and processes. The Ministry of Ocean Development is regularly monitoring the chemistry of coastal waters and